

VZCZCXRO7653  
OO RUEHHM  
DE RUEHHI #0191 0620920  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
O 030920Z MAR 09  
FM AMEMBASSY HANOI  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9239  
INFO RUEHHM/AMCONSUL HO CHI MINH PRIORITY 5639  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0266

UNCLAS HANOI 000191

SENSITIVE  
SIPDIS

FOR IO/UNP (FITZGERALD), EAP/MLS (BLACKSHAW)

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PREL](#) [UNSC](#) [PHUM](#) [SU](#) [XA](#) [XW](#) [VM](#)

SUBJECT: VIETNAM OBJECTS TO BASHIR INDICTMENT, STILL CONSIDERING  
RESPONSE

REF: STATE 19213

(SBU) In a March 2 meeting with the MFA's Director General for International Organizations, Le Hoai Trung, CDA discussed the International Criminal Court's imminent indictment of Sudan President Omar al-Bashir and urged Vietnam not to support an Article 16 deferral of prosecution. She urged Vietnam to be muted in its response to the indictment, noting that the United States does not believe that a UNSC statement is necessary unless there is significant violence or Khartoum reacts in an extreme fashion. DG Trung reiterated his government's strong opposition to the ICC indictment, but said that his government would take the U.S. position into consideration. He said that its general disapproval notwithstanding, Hanoi had not yet drafted instructions to its UN Mission on how specifically to respond to an indictment.

PALMER